A STRONG ADDRESS.

The Cotton Growers Are Urged to Combine.

N INTERESTING PAPER.

hemselves is Pointed Out in Detail. The Dan-

get Imminent. the Cotton Growers of South Caro-The special committee appointed by the Cotton Growers' union of the State held in Columbia on the 20th inst., desire to say that the exceedingly low prices of cotton at the present, with the indication of lower prices still in the future, painfully admonish us that we have reached a crisis in the history of the industry. Prices today are not only far lower than they have ever previously been at this season of the year. but lower than they have been for 50 years, and the months of November, December, January and February are selling on the Liverpool market lower than during the great depression of the forties, and even at these figures Engsoon be 50 points lower. In view of these conditions we desire to call the we as a people are allowing this great element of wealth to pass beyond our

lish agents are advising the spinners of Great Britain to withhold their purchases upon assurances that prices will attention not only of the cotton growers but of every business association in the cotton belt to the portentous fact that for the want of organization directed by ordinary tact and foresight. borders for a mere song; that our birthright is going for a mess of pottage, and our great natural advantages sacrificed with the careless indifference of a drunkard, who flings from his lap his treasures. Foreign speculators and manufacturers, fully aware that the staple is passing out of the hands of the growers at figures far below the cost of production, nevertheless hold aloof from the market to allow the maturing obligations of the farmers to force the crop out of their hands for a mere pittance. Defiantly claiming to command the situation they boldly propose to avail themselves of conditions, which could be remedied by a combination of the cotton growers and business element of the cotton belt, to rob the growers not only of the profits of their year's toil but of nearly one-half the value of 10,000,000 bales of cotton, and section of the globe. Blessed with the natural advantages of a climate and soil which alone can produce this great staple in quality and quantity sufficient for the demands of the world, we should be the most prosperous people on earth. Efficient organization, which would control the volume of production and regulate its marketing, would make these advantages a mine of wealth; but with every cotton grower separately and independently striving to increase his eage and nullify his bales, first above then below the cost of production; ha vicious financial system that causes the claims of the local merchant and banker to force the entire crop on the market in four months, these natural advantages are distorted into a blight and a curse, and the cotton grower is made to become a prey to the usurer, the speculator and the manufaccalculated to stir the human heart canmore complaints of the oppression of doubled. And then one by one they ly. Lands were prepared for corn, and trusts and combinations, but as a class | will secretly determine that as there is | much was planted. Some cotton and we should meekly accept that law of to be an over production of cotton he rice were planted. Farm work made nature which decrees that the improvi- | will plant a minimum acreage, and let | rapid progress. dent, the weak and the careless shall the other fellows reap the proceeds of 2

frain of the other avocations. 'I hold the farmer a simp'e tool Born to labor and not to rule. And I wil do unto him that which I see

Will bring the most money to mine and to Prompt and concerted action on the part of the cotton growers would change present conditions in 90 days. Through the complete organization which would enable them to act as a unit would place them in command of the situation in three months and change their condin from one of bankruptcy and dis-ess to one of competency and profit. By what means can organization ef-

fect these ends? Adopt the recommendations of the National Cotton Growers' union, organize promptly, hold all the cotton on hand and firmly bind ourselves to reduce the extent of this year's acreage 50 per cent. the ensuing year. No intelligent man of business experience will dispute the soundness of this proposition. As soon as effective measures to these ends have been taken and become a certainty cotton will immediately advance and more money can | weight of his body with each step. day: because it would then become a ue. The visible supply of cotton is not force, bears no burden, and covers the counties by the frost of the 7th, but inches, and 13 others had over 10 inches. above 15,000,000 and the invisible sup- same distance in less than one-third of ply, or stock on hand at the mills, is the time. imated at 500,000, making a total of 2,000,000 bales. To be certain not to underestimate will put the amount of this stock which has passed beyond the Another hold-up occurred on the Lake bacco. control of the growers into the hands of | Shore road west of here. One gang of | speculators and manufacturers, say at tramps held up the officials on a freight | with a mean temperature of 74 degrees, | exceedingly well; but maturing crops,

three months the entire surplus beyond their control would be consumed and the manufacturers would be at their mercy for a supply. The entire situation would be changed instead of the speculator and the manufacturer dictating the price the cotton grower could x his price and say pay it or shut down your mill. A reduction in next year's acreage of 50 per cent. would insure such a diminution of the supply as to make cotton scarce and bring about an active competition among the manufac-

turers for their stock that would insure a steady and rapid rise of price. This was made demonstrably clear during the war between the north and

south in the sixties. McHenry in his 'History of the Cotton," page 51, says: In ordinary times there is always two years' supply of cotton in the crude and manufactured state at the consuming points. At the fall of Fort Sumter there was a sufficiency for three years' requirements. With the supply larger in proportion then than now, as soon as the production was curtailed by the war, we note the following extraordinary rise in prices; in 1860 the average price was 11 cents, in 1861 at 13 cents, in 1862 at 32 cents, in 1863 at 67 cents. in 1864 at \$1.01. But it is argued that any heavy curtailment of production in the South to raise the price will stimulate foreign competition. If \$1 per pound in 1864 could not stimulate ingenious foreign competition it is difficult to see how 8 or 10 cents can do it

Touching this point, Ellison in his "History of the Cotton Trade," pages 149-142. says: "For some years prior to the outbreak of the civil war it had been foreseen that, sooner or later a serious labor disturbance at the south was inevitable, and in view of the calamity which such an event would bring upon Lancashire, every effort was made to discover new sources of cotton supply. But, although, the powerful association formed for the promotion of this end searched every nook and corner of the cotton zone, and sent seed to every one in the four continents, willing to experiment, they entirely failed to accomplish the laudable bject they had in view."

Mr. Ellison further tells us that while the exceedingly high prices during the war did considerably increase foreign shipments of cotton, that this increase declined almost to its normal ped as soon as the price of cotton fell to 15 cents or 30 cents per pound. If no action is taken and this crop is sacrificed at present or probably lower igures in the next four months it will fall far short of paying for the cost of production. The cotton growers will be impoverished, the country stripped of means and every business interest must suffer. Should there be no effective organization to curtail the supply by a uniform reduction of the acreage. and any other plan to reduce the crop, is the merest twaddle. The industry will be but an illustration of the survi val of the fittest; those who can raise it cheapest and those who cannot compete must accept the cheerless and hopeless lot of the bankrupt and pauper.

President S. C. C. G. U. L. W. Youmans, Vice-President N. C. G. U. A GREAT SCHEME.

By Which the Cotton Acreage Can be

There is a cotton man in Columbia who has a great scheme on foot for the turer. Never was there a situation reduction of the cotton acreage. He which more peremptorily challenged the says he intends to push it to a grand wisdom of economic statesmanship; and glorious success and no doubt he never was there a more inviting way, a | will if he can get the proper co-operamore imperative field for organization; tion. There is a degree of uncertainty never was there an exigency which about his being able to do that, howwould more fully justify it. Yet we ever. There have been a number of are told that the cotton growers are an conventions of cotton planters, in which ties, where the average night temperaignorant class, devoid of leadership and they all positively pledged themselves tures were below the active growing without the power to organize; that it to reduce the amount of cotton they is impossible to organize 500,000 cotton | would plant. It was a case of resolute growers. Why even the lower animals | and fall back. Then when the farmers will rally for defense and self protect got home, each one would wink at him- which was 1.47 below the normal, but tion. Can it be possible that the cot- self: assume that everybody else was was unevenly distributed, having been ton growers constitute the only element going to decrease the acreage, and he heavy in the upper Savannah valley of the animal kingdom which cannot would take advantage of the opportuni- and at a few other points, and very deunite? Are they so devoid of manhood, ty to double his own acreage in cotton. intelligence and foresight that the and get the benefit of higher prices. drought conditions were intensified, to strongest incentives -- independence, They would all play foxy in the same the further injury of the truck crops competency, the welfare of their sec- way and the consequence would be a which were slowly coming to maturity, tion and the maintenance of their fami- crop of unprecedented size. Now this and shipments of strawberries, peas, lies cannot induce them to unite? If it Columbia genius has hit upon a scheme beans and Irish potatoes were begun. be true that as a class they are so de- which logically cannot fail. He provoid of spirit, so ignorant, so helpless | poses to call a convention of all the cotand supine that the most direct and ton growers of this part of the South. forceful appeals to sentiments the most | They will each and all be pledged to increase their cotton acreage for the next preparation of lands for the usual not induce them to organize for pur- year. Every safeguard will be thrown poses of mutual protection and self de- around them so that according to all fence. then truly we should hear no the laws of the game the acreage be Wheat, oats and barley grew luxuriant-

will go up to 12 cents.-Record.

William Roelker, a German ironworker, twisted a lion's tail at East St. Louis, and will lose his left arm. John F. Hummerircus and menagerie was to give an khibition. The animal wagons were lined up, preparatory to the parade. Among the animals were a pair of African lions. The male was lying at the front of the cage with one of his paws and his tail hanging outside the bars. Roelker began stroking the paw with his left hand. The lion watched Roelker's procedure. ironworker grabbed the tail with his right hand, giving it a sharp twist. There was a roar, and one of the lion's paws caught Roelker by the left shoulder and stripped off the flesh of the arm down to the hand, two fingers of which were torn off.

When a man walks a mile he takes. on an average, 2,263 steps, lifting the be borrowed on it than it is worth to- When he rides a bicycle of the average gear he covers a mile with the equiv security constantly anticipating in val- alent of only 627 steps, requires little

Another Hold Up.

A special from Elyria, Ohio, says: and generally so for oats, rice and to- moisture and even, high temperature between \$00,000 and 1,000,000 bales Many shots were fired. The trainmen normal. The extremes of temperature teriorated. The frequent rains pre- ordering the release of all political feat and they seek for it everywhere revolver and shot Lanier. Beaton surper month. If the farmers should withhold their cotton from the market for foot to break up the gang.

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CLIMATE AND CROPS.

South Carolina Has Some Crop Growing the Year Round.

INSPECTOR BAUER'S REPORT

Much Valuable Information Furnished as to the Conditions in This State During Each Month.

The following is the climate and crop review for the season of 1898 issued from the South Carolina section of the United States weather and crop service

There is no month of the year but what, in portions of the State, some crop is either growing or coming to maturity. During January, February and generally the greater portion of March the active growth of crops is confined to the immediate coast from Charleston to the mouth of the Savannah river. where winter vegetables, planted in the previous autumn, receive cultivation and make more or less growth. The earliest are marketed in the latter portion of January, and throughout February and March. The list of vegetables increase in variety as the season advances and the area of production extends farther into the interior, although confined to the eastermost counties until after March.

The winter season of 1898 was mild and dry. The average temperature for January was 49 degrees, which was an a erage of 3 degrees per day in excess of he normal. Along the coast the tem perature fell below freezing (32) ou two days only, while the average minimun was above the active growing tem erature. The rainfall, however, in the trucking districts, amounted to a fraction of an inch only, and the deficiency seriously affected the growing 2 degrees above the normal. The extruck crops. Frost did no injury. The average rainfall for the State was 1.80 inch, which was 2.60 below the nor-

February was a cool month throughout the State, with an average temperature of 44 degrees which was 6 degrees per day below the normal. The minimum fell to, or below, freezing on an average of 16 days for the State, and 5 days in the truck raising districts, where also, the average minimum was below the active growing temperature with frequent light frosts. The rainfall was again deficient. The average was only 0.81 inch, which was 2.80 below the normal. Less than one-fourth of conditions of temperature and rainfall, while generally favorable for farming interests, were jamaging to the trucking interests and resulted in the latest and smallest yield in many years, causing a general loss to the truck growers. The cool weather throughout the State retarded the growth of winter wheat and oats, and other small grains, and checked the budding of fruit trees and aided materially in making the grain crops the finest in many years, and an unusually large peach crop. The dry condition of the ground permitted more than the usual amount of ploughing and preparation of fields for the usual spring planting. In the extreme southeastern counties some corn was planted

during the latter portion of the month. March was a warm, dry month. The mean temperature was 59 degrees, which was 5 degrees per day above the normal. The extremes recorded were a maximum of 92 and a minimum of 22 degrees, the latter on the first of the month. Heavy killing frosts were reported from the 1st to the 7th, after which warm growing weather prevailed, except over the extreme western counpoints until the latter portion of the

The rainfall averaged 2.99 inches, ficient near the coast, where the

The prevailing high temperature caused a rapid growth of vegetation. The freedom of the soil from excessive moisture enabled early and thorough spring crops. Fruit trees of all varieties blossomed during the month.

April was cooler than usual. with serve the vigilant, the active and the cent cotton. As a consequence we would a mean temperature of 58 degrees, strong; then should we join in the re- | have the smallest crop of cotton plant- | which was 5 degrees per day below the ed in fifteen years and the fleecy staple | natural. The extremes of temperature were a maximum of 92 degrees and a minimum of 25 degrees. Frequent light frosts occurred up to the 28th, none of which, although heavy in appearance, did any damage except to retard the

growth of young corn and cotton. The rainfall averaged 5.05 inches, which was 1.91 inches in excess of the normal, and was evenly distributed. with an average of eight days without rain. The rainfall was beneficial in supplying, to a large extent, the previous deficiency, thus putting the ground into excellent condition for planting, although germination and growth of the staple crops were slow owing to the prevailing low tempera-

Corn planting made considerable progress during the month, and the bulk of the cotton crop was also planted, there remaining but little of either crop to plant by the end of the month. except over the western counties, where the farm work was delayed, and was frequently interrupted by heavy rains. Minor crops were largely all planted and in the main did well.

the first week was cool, with light fodder that was stripped from the stalk. frosts on the 7th and 8th over a large Some corn was blown to the ground and portion of the State, but the frost did | considerable sprouted in the husk. no injury other than to retard the The humid, rainy weather caused many growth of young corn and eotton. Cut | ripe cotton bolls to rot, and the seed of worms were unusually numerous and open cotton sprouted before it could be destructive during the prevalence of picked. Much of the open cotton milthe cool weather. The temperature on dewed and became weather-stained. The the 30th was higher at many stations excessive rains caused rust to develop,

than ever before recorded in May. The average rainfall for the month was only 1.35 inches, with an average | but could not be harvested. Grass that of 8 days with rain. The rainfall was was cut for hay was generally ruined 84 per cent. of the normal, and droughty conditions prevailed by the end of housed. Exceedingly heavy rains caused the month, being most severe over the inundations over the southeastern counsoutheastern counties, where there was | ties, doing extensive damage to cotton. a large seasonal deficiency in rainfall. The harvesting of wheat and oats was elegant and nearly finished during crops, but was quite favorable for the month. The wheat crop was the finest raised for many years; the oats crop was also heavy, except for spring sown, which was injured by the dry weather. Truck crops suffered severely. Cotton developed slowly, being

want of rain. Tobacco did well, and an almost entire absence of destructive insects was noted. Pastures failed rapidly; berries and truck yields were reduced by the drought. Streams reached very low stages, and wells began to fail by the end of the month. Rice grew well, but | cient in the central and eastern counon account of the low stages of the rivers, was threatened by salt water. Gardens dried up, and vegetables became scarce in places. Farm work was well advanced, and crops were kept

small but vigorous and healthy. Corn

remained green, but made slow growth,

and in places suffered severely for the

tressing in the cities and along the June was a month of transition from the unfavorable conditions that prevailed generally during May on account of drought in that month. The mean temperature was 80, which was tremes of temperature were a maximum of 105 and a minimum of 55. The

temperature rose to or above, 90 de-

free from weeds and grass, and were

well cultivated. The dust was dis-

grees on an average of 20 days. The average rainfall for the month was 4.15 inches, which was 0.47 of an average of 8 days with rain. The the 15th, after which date copious and well distributed showers occurred over | State. the entire State, and prevented the sown oats and early corn. The latter was too nearly matured in the eastern counties to be much benefitted. The wheat and oats harvest and securing | the average over the entire State. the grain in fine condition, but delayed planting of corn and peas on stubble lands; and transplanting sweet potato slips. Cotton plants developed satisfactorily; they fruited heavily, and in the more easterly portions of the State put on bolls freely. Lice damaged cotton in many places; otherwise cotton was in a healthy condition, although small for the season, except on sandy soils, where it attained normoal growth.

Tobacco developed into a very fine crop, and was unusally free from worms, fleas and grasshoppers, and sustained no damage by hail. Some early tobacco was cut and cured. Ricedid not do well until near the close of the month, when it began to improve rapidly. Large quantities of peaches and plums came on the market but other fruits and berries were scarce or of inferior quality. Melons were smaller and later than usual. The month as a whole favored farm work, with a result that field crops were generally well cultivated and unusually free from grass and weeds.

July was a cloudy and rainy month with even high temperature. The mean temperature was 80, which was one degree per day above the normal. The extremes were a maximum of 102 and a minimum of 54 degrees. The cool spell was of short duration, and did no harm.

The average rainfall for the State was 7.81 inches, which was 1.71 above the normal, and was evenly distributed, with an average of 14 days with rain. There was more than the usual amount of cloudiness. Few severe windstorms occurred, and there was an almost entire absence of destructive

Crop developed satisfactorily, especially corn, which attained a very promising condition although the prospects did not indicate a full crop in all sections of the State. Cotton grew too much to stalk, and. owing to the continuous wet condition of the soil, did not receive its usual July cultivation, and fields became grassy. The plant lacked sunshine. Cotton fruited heavly, with very little shedding except in a few localities where excessive shedding occurred. Tobacco cutting and curing continued througout the month, and, the bulk of this crop was saved without any material injury from any source. Fresh water for flooding rice fields became available early in the month, and the crop improved rapidly. Forage and food crops grew fast. Fall root crops were planted. The month as a whole was favorable for all agricultural interests. Peaches and melons were plentiful, but other fruits were generally scarce. The damp cloudy weather caused much rotting of ripening grapes. August was a month of normal tem-

perature and excessive rainfall. The mean temperature for the month was 79 degrees, which is also the normal. The extremes of temperature recorded were a maximum of 99, and a minimum of 57 degrees. There was an unusually small range in the night temperatures. The average rainfall for the month was 9.81 inches, which was says that it will be necessary to have 3.68 inches in excess of the normal. There were 18 days with rain, and some rain fell within the State on ev-Many peaches, plums, cherries and ery day of the month. Two stations apricots were killed in the western had monthly measurements of over 24 elsewhere throughout the State the The rainfall at many stations was prospects for a large fruit crop were largely in excess of any previous the state authorities hope the govern- their chance to capture it. The Spanunimpaired, except for apples and pears. mouthly records. There was a harm- ment will send the additional surgeon. The weather was favorable on wheat, | ful deficiency in sunshine. Abundant caused all vegetation to grow rapidly, May was slightly warmer than usual, and forage as well as root crops did 2.400,000. The consumption ranges train and took everything in sight, which was 3 degrees per day above the such as cotton, corn and rice, de-

and shedding of squares and young bolls. Peavines attained good growth

the Past. The Marksmanship of the Americans Excellent.

corn, rice and hay. On the whole, the month was unfavorable for the staple minor crops, pastures and gardens. Whatever deterioration crops suffered was due to an excess of moisture and deficiency in sunshine. The first bale of cotton for the season of 1898 was ginned on the 9th of August, or 12 days later than in 1897. September began with a continuation of the rainy, clammy and warm weathprejudice. er that prevailed during August, but

about the 10th of this month there was a change to cooler, clear weather at first, and then to clear, very warm weather. The temperature averaged about 3 degrees per day above the nor-"Well, I will tell you the thing simmal. The rainfall was slightly defiply and just as it occurred. At 5 o'clock

just noted were great enough to be harmful. After the 10th of September, ideal weather prevailed for harvesting and maturing crops. Rust, shedding and made rapid progress, which as it advanced seemed to indicate a shortage in the crop over the eastern and central counties, but also indicated a full average crop in the western counties,

before it could be properly cured and

to grow, bloom and fruit throughout the month. Considerable corn was housed, and much found to be damaged from very slowly. I came back to my wife sprouting in the husk. Local overflows and said: 'Well, now, let me tell you of rivers and creeks also damaged some that what I said to you a moment ago inch below the normal. There was an | corn, but on the whole the early corn | by way of a joke was really a fact. made a good average yield, with many | Here the Americans are!' She almost drought of the previous month became exceptions, owing to local adverse con- lost her head with fear. 'None of that, intensified, and continued until about ditions. Late planted or stubble-land said I. 'Cover your head in the bedcorn varied greatly throughout the

Rice harvest continued throughout threatened serious injury to growing the month, and except where damaged

> gum cane, turnips, and for garden very favorable and the yields larg?.

> A short resume of the season would show that the winter was dry with nearly normal temperature: the spring cool, with frequent light frosts. and a deficiency in rainfall amounting to a drought of more or less severity, and entailing considerable loss in some localities. The summer was uniformly tumn warm, dry and favorable for harvesting and abundant crops that the season and the labor of the husbandman produced.

J. W. Bauer, Section Director.

DESTRUCTIVE PRAIRIE FIRES.

to Death. Serious Situation.

A prairie fire, probably started by a spark from a locomotive, has burned over thousands of acres of grassy lands between Kiowi and Bijou creeks in Morgan county, Col., and destroyed

thousands of tons of hay. Ranchman W. C. Miller and his wife and child had a narrow escape from being burned to death. The woman and the child were badly burned. Had it not been for the prompt work of the railroad men and others at Corona. the town would have been entirely destroyed. Going toward the approaching fire for a mile back fires were started and in this manner the danger averted. Thousands of head of cattle are threat-

ened with destruction by the forest In Eagle county, where the flames seem to be spreading more rapidly than in other sections of the State, ranch property has been burned and the farmers with their stock have been trying to get out of the path of the fires for a week past. One large bunch of about 5,000 head of cattle is now entirely surrounded by fire and there is no chance for them to escape. The re- hemp, rice and an incalculable quantiport came from Deputy Game Warden Slaughter, who directed his letter two must be added coffee, tobacco and the days ago. It is probable that the cattle have been destroyed by this time. Dispatches form various points in

the forest fire district indicate that the fires are spreading, and that unless something is done to check their further progress the loss will be almost beyond estimation. Some mining camps are threatened with destruction and many ranches are doomed.

miles of the town and citizens are or- much trouble, I will admit, but they ganizing to fight their advance. A dis- have a taste for human flesh all the patch states that it is feared that the same, and that propensity has never ittle mining settlement at Holy Cross | been checked by the Spaniards. They near Red Cliff has been destroyed. go to church once in a while, and that Communication is cut off the mail carrier being unable to get through.

Diseases of Cattle.

Veterinary Surgeon Neeson, Clemson college, has written a long letter to Governor Ellerbe in reference to diseases of cattle in the state. He an assistant if the business is to be properly attended to. These letters have been sent to Washington with the governor's recommendation that the additional surgeon be allowed. This nothing to speak of. Disorder was department of Clemson college has done much good work heretofore and the town on all sides and only watched

Prisoners Released.

The official Gazette at Havana

A Retired French Naval Officer's Observation About It.

THE SPANIARDS NO GOOD.

They are Dreamers and Dwell In

The Courier des Etats-Unis is publishing a series of letters from Manila, one of which gives an account of the battle of Cavite by a retired French naval officer who lived for a long time in the Philippine islands, and whose country house was situated between Cavite and Manila. The views of the Frenchman are interesting, especially because they seem utterly devoid of all

'Now, monsieur." asked the correspondent, "since your house was so near the scene of the battle, be good enough to tell us what the affair looked

that morning I was in bed. I heard a ties, but over the western counties long, dull sound. I thought that it there was considerable excess, but was a signal announcing the arrival of neither the deficiency nor the excess a French or an English vessel. My wife awoke and asked. 'What is that?' 'It is simply a signal,' said I. Two minutes afterward there was another cannon shot. 'Hello! What's this?' said I. 'Is it something serious? That rotting ceased on cotton, and picking certainly can't be a signal.' I jumped up and looked out of the window. I could see nothing but a little curtain of fog and a little smoke. Then, to frighten my wife with what I believed was a little practical joke, I shouted, where in many places cotton continued 'The American fleet!' I looked out again. The fog was gone, and, sure enough, I counted seven American ships in line. They were advancing clothes and put cotton in your ears if you want to, but keep quiet.'

"I watched the fleet. It was advancing upon Cavite, where all the Spancrops, except to truck, gardens, spring by floods, yielded heavily. Upland rice ish boats were heaped together like was particularly fine in most localities. | mice in a trap. The Americans were A heavy crop of peavine and other soon upon them and opened a terrible hay was saved in good condition. The fire. They manoeuvred for a while and absence of rain during the first half of hay crop was the heaviest ever known | finally placed themselves two by two, the month was favorable for finishing in many localities, and was far above the two largest in the rear, and the others in front, two at the right, two at the left, all facing the Spaniards. tatoes, chufas, peanuts, sugar and sor- At 7:30 there was not a single Spanish vessel afloat; all were either sunk or truck, after the middle of June, was burned. The fire of the Americans was excellent, indeed, wonderful. Each shot hit the mark. I could see the smoke and the cloud of dust when a projectile fell on shore. It was a magnificent piece of firing practice.'

"But didn't the batteries fire?" "Ob, yes, the battery at Cavite fired few shots, but it was quickly demolished by the shells of the Americans. warm and excessively wet. The au- It was absolutely reduced to cinders. I admired greatly the accuracy of the American shooting. As I said, every

shot seemed to hit the mark." "Now, tell us about the protestations that were made by the consular corps, and especially by the German consul in regard to some broken promises."

"There were no protestations. The Spaniards came to the French consul Five Thousand Head of Cattle Doomed | and protested to him on the day of the battle. I was there at the time. They were excited and shouted out: 'Senor consul! Senor consul! They fired at us with shells that burst!' It was I who replied to them: 'Ah! shells that burst!" I exclaimed. 'Did you Spaniards protest in 1870 when Strasburg. Belfort and Paris were bombarded with shells that burst? And even two months ago, when you massacred a lot of insurgents, it was also with shells that burst!" But that is the way always with these Spaniards. They are proud, valiant and stubborn, but they live in 1550 or say 1610. They have not changed one bit since then. V., Cortez and Legazpi are the only heroes they speak of. They do not seem to know that a great many new things have been introduced since that time, among others, shells, new powders, machines, electricity, etc.'

"Now, morsieur, do you believe that with the wise administration of a farseeing and cultivated nation the Philppines would be a valuable colony? "Marvelous, perfectly marvelous! In the Philippines there are untold riches and their situation is perfectly unique. Among other things there are sugar, ty of precious woods. And to all these mines. In fact, the subsoil is wort. gold, but it has never been exploited.

"Have the natives really suffered

much from the Spaniards?" "Oh, yes, very much; that is incontestable. The Spaniards never did anything for them. Just fancy that at Mariveles, at the entrance to the bay, there are still cannibals. Yes, sir, cannibals! Just think of that! They are At Redcliff the fires are within 10 very gentle and they do not cause is all that is demanded of them.'

"How comes it that the Spaniards did nothing? Why did not the governor risk a coup de main to recapture Cavite and the arsenal? 'With what? They could do noth

ing. They would have been under the fire of the American fleet. "But they had field pieces and it would not require very heavy projec tiles to pierce the American ships? "Oh, yes, they had field pieces. but they were worthless. In fact, they had

everywhere; the insurgents surrounded iards found themselves threatened by everybody, both in the town and out-

FLEEING FOR THEIR LIVES. A Mighty Sea of Fire Sweeps Every-

thing Before it. A dispatch from Idaho Springs, Colorado, say fearful forest fires are raging on the west side of the divide. They are beyond control and the people are fleeing for their lives. How many, if

any, have perished cannot be known as there is no way of getting direct information. Light breezes gives the mighty sea of fire new impetus and onward t goes, burning everything before it, with no chance for life, stock or property. Cattle are known to be perishng and bears, deer and other wild animals are rushing to the east side of the. divide. The damage will be tremendous. The timber losses amount to more

than any money consideration. These forests cover the head waters of the mountain streams where the snow remain for many months. From such source streams have been kept carrying volumes of water sufficient to irrigate most of the lands of the State west of the divide. With the disappearance of the timber the flow of the streams will be materially lessened. There seems to be a settled opinion among the ranchers that these fires were started by the Indians with a malicious intent. They say the forcible ejection of the Indians and there return to the reservation more than a year ago because of their slaughter of game has made them bitter against the whites.

The forest fires which have been burning in various places throughout western Wisconsin for the past few days were fanned into furious storms of Chippewa, Dunn, St. Croix and Polk counties. A general destruction of telegraph wires make the reports very incomplete, but it seems that the villages of Clayton, Alamena and Poskin have been wholly or partly destroyed, that Cumberland has suffered heavy losses and that Glenwood, Barron, ports of loss of life are coming in, but have not been verified except in one instance. A railroad bridge and trestle over 700 feet long on the Soo Line, west of Barron, was burned last night and trains are running by another route. Fires have been checked in places by rains and the subsidence of the winds. A rough estimate places the aggregate oss at from \$3,000,000 to \$5,000,000. Reports from the western portion of

Colorado continue to tell of the ravages of the forest fires, which bid fair to devastate the greater part of the forests of the State. A special from Glenwood Springs, the centre of the burning distains near here have taken fresh life today owing to high winds. The sun has been nearly obscured, all day the atmosphere was heavy with smoke. The fire east of Glenwood Springs is fortunately in an unsettled part of the country and aside from the immense loss by the burning of timber, no loss has occurred up to the present time. special to the News from Kokomo, Colo., says: "Forest fires are raging on the north side, is a mass of flames. which are within a quarter of a mile of this camp. Great apprehension is

elt here for the safety of the town." RECONCENTRADOS ALL DEAD.

So Spoke the Secretary General of dead. Cuba in New York.

Among the passengers who arrived Wednesday at New York on the steamer Washington from Havana was Dr. Jose Congosto Secretary-General of Cuba Dr. Congosto said the problem of the future of the island is a difficult one and I have studied it without prejudice, and as a result of this study of years I believe that it is a social problem and not a political one. Of course, politics will enter into the solution, but the question is how to bring the most prosperity and the greatest happiness to the people of Cuba.

Dr. Congosto was asked as to the condition of the reconcentrados.

"There are no reconcentrados now" he answered with a smile. "What has become of them?" was

the question. 'They are gone.'

"Where?"

"God knows," was the reply. "Do you mean to say they are all

"That explains it better than I can. It is a subject which I prefer not to discuss."

of a new navy for Spain, Dr. Congosto "Spain is still a great country, and she ought to have a great navy-and probably will.

Discussing the fall of Santiago and the surrender of Gen. Toral Dr. Congosto said: "There were brave soldiers at Santiago, and if their leader lacked courage he deserves to be punished. Santiago should not have fallen as it did, and if Toral had never entered into negotiations with the enemy it is likey that there would have been a different story to tell today. It is not true that the Spanish army there lacked supolies and ammunition, for they had plenty of both which they turned over to the Americans. If Toral had oushed forward instead of retreating toward the city, he certainly would have caused a repulse. These are things

which he will have to explain. A Perilous Trip.

The United States transport Massachusetts. Captain Robinson, which sailed from Santiago September 23, arrived at New York Wednesday and proceeded to anchorage off Liberty. sland. While at Santiago the coal in the Massachusetts' bunkers took fire. and it was necessary to jettison 100 tons. A portion of this coal was taken on board again. On going to sea the fire again broke out in the fire bunkers and smoldered for three days. It was finally extinguished by the use of steam, and the steamer reached port without

A Georgia Tragedy. A special from Wayeross, Ga., says: side of it. Now that the Spaniards are Upritt Lanier, son of S. E. Lanier, was of dead English sparrows. It has rebeaten they are busy with a problem killed here early Friday morning by cently paid out over \$2,000 to an Indipublished a decree Thursday signed by Capt. Gen. Blanco and bearing date of September 27, granting pardon to and want to find out the cause of their decree of

further incident.

A RACE RIOT.

Whites and Blacks Have a Fight Up in Illinois.

IT TOOK PLACE AT PANA.

The Blacks Driven Streets to Their Blockades by

> the Striking Union Miners.

Striking union coal miners and imported negroes engaged in a pitched battle in the Main street of Pana, Ill., Wednesday night. Several hundred

shots were exchanged. No one was wounded in the ranks of the union men. The negroes were driven from the city to their stockades, carrying with them, it is believed, a number of wounded comrades. One of the negroes is reported to have died soon after reaching the stockade. Desultory firing continues at midnight in the vicinity of the stockades.

The trouble, which has been narrow ly averted between the striking coal miners of this city and negroes imported from the South to work the mines, was precipitated at 8:30 o'clock Wednesday evening.

As usual, the negroes from the stock ades at the Springside and Penwell mines were making demonstrations on Second and Locust streets, the princical streets of the city, by parading heavily armed. The union miners were flame by winds and did great damage in | in session at their hall, where a Chicago labor leader was speaking. One of the negroes appeared at the foot of the miners' hall and engaged in a quarrel with a union white miner. Officer Samuel Smith immediately arrested the black man and was escerting him to jail when he was closed in by a posse of negroes, who, pointing their revolv-Prentice, Phillips and Turtle Lake ers at Smith, threatened to kill him if were saved only by great efforts. Re- he did not release the prisoner. Smith continued on his way to jail with the man. Union miners and others meanwhile went to Smith's assistance and the negroes were driven back. Smith took his prisoner to Operator George V. Penwell's store, and upon Penwell's standing for the negro's fine, he was

released. Before Smith had released the prisoner, however, the negro posse had been reinforced and assumed a threatening attitude toward the white men. David McGavic, leader of the union miners, clubbed one of the blacks over over the head with a revolver, it is said. For half a block McGavic forced shots were fired. The negroes retreated double quick to their stockades, secured rifles; returned to Locust street and challenged the miners to fight. The opposing forces lined up the street, the negroes with Winchesters and the miners with shotguns, rifles and revolvers. Neighboring business houses were immediately closed, lights extin-'The stock on the ranges, as far as guished and citizens generally sought heard from, has escaped the fire." 'A their homes. At the word of command firing commenced. The first volley, it is said, came from the negroes. The every hand here. Sheep mountain, on union men responded with a volley and heavy firing continued for five minutes. Much of the shooting was wild and entirely harmless to the white men, who finally drove their enemies in full retreat to the stockades. The negroes are thought to have carried several men with them, and one is reported

A second encounter between whites and blacks occurred 20 minutes after the first battle, near the Penwell stockade, but the firing was scattered and it is not believed to have been a serious engagement. The miners had full charge of the business streets at midnight. Desultory rifle reports could be heard from the Penwell and Springside stockades, but no person would venture into the streets near the mines, and very few are loitering about the

business or residence sections. The union miners say the battle of Wednesday night is only a foretaste of what may be expected to follow. They blame Operator Penwell for the trouble and say they will tomorrow swear out warrants charging him with inciting Wednesday night's riot. Gov. Tanner will be asked to send militia to protect

property, and to remove the negroes. An Interesting Case.

An interesting case came before a Buffalo court the other day. It was based upon one woman's remark about another. "She uses pads to fill out her figure and make the boys think she's a stunner," the defendant is alleged to have said of the plaintiff. The law presumes a defendant to be innocent till proven guilty. The onus of the burden of proof, therefore, was upon the plaintiff to show that she did not use pads, and the defendant had slandered her. The jury was largely composed of unmarried men, whose ignorance of feminine make-ups peculiarly fitted them for rendering impartial judgement. After voluminous testimony, vigorous cross examinations and many explanations, the jury returned a sealed verdict.

Fatal Powder Explosion.

An explosion of powder Wednesday in the rear of the four story building at 410 North Front street, St. Louis, occupied by C. & W. McLean, fishing tackle and sporting goods, set the store on fire and caused its destruction and resulted in the death of Pauline Bruder and the fatal injury of Florence Highbee. A number of other people were more or less hurt. The loss will probably amount to \$100,000. Partly covered by insurance.

Wanted to Hold On.

A dispatch from Santitgo de Cuba says Senor Sanchez Garcia, one of the spanish judges, who was continued in office after the capitulation until ordered a month ago to cease performing his magistrate functions, but who, despite the order, has continued to try cases, has again been ordered to cease under penalty of arrest. A Cuban has been

appointed to succeed him.

A Neat Swindle. Michigan pays a bounty for the heads